

# Playing with trash in Redondo

**REPURPOSING:** Weekend event is about finding new uses — in art, music and sports — for old items.

**By Kristin S. Agostoni**  
Staff Writer

There may be another life for that old pair of pantyhose, so think twice before you toss them.

And the big box headed for the recycling bin? Consider the calories you could burn with it.

A collection of environmentally conscious athletes, artists and musicians will gather Saturday in Redondo Beach's Perry Park to give trash a second chance, with athletic competitions that recycle unwanted household items into sporting equipment.

Visitors will be able to play a modified game of golf in which nylon-covered ten-

nis balls are tossed toward targets and crawl through a maze built with pieces of cardboard. The Canadian Junkyard Symphony will use recyclables to make music, and artist Steve "Classic" Jasik will display cars he's transformed into mobile pieces of art.

It's the city's first-ever JunkFest — the brainchild of Redondo Beach resident and educator Bernie DeKoven, author of a book called "Junkyard Sports."

Published in 2004 by Human Kinetics, the book is a guide for incorporating household items in hockey, football, baseball and other games.

"I wanted to bring it to life," said DeKoven, who has a master's degree in theater and teaches game design courses at Otis College of Art and Design in Playa del Rey.

"First of all, there's the repurposing message," he said. "But there's a playfulness and a creativity and a sense of humor that surrounds all this."

DeKoven, 66, said he pitched the Junk-

## WANT TO GO?

**WHAT:** Redondo Beach JunkFest, featuring music, artwork and games that use sporting equipment made from recyclables

**WHERE:** Perry Park, 2301 Grant Ave., Redondo Beach

**WHEN:** 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday

**INFORMATION:** <http://junkyardsports.com>

Fest idea after speaking with a man who had read his book and wanted to bring sports to the far reaches of the Philippines.

The more they talked about the games, the more DeKoven wanted to host a local event that offered athletic competitions and more, including art and music.

"It's a whole kind of focus on repurposing as a cultural vehicle," he said. "The

other part is bringing together art and play."

DeKoven eventually brought the idea to the city, found supporters and on Saturday hopes to draw a crowd. Admission is free, and adults and children can join the competitions, which will also include a four-way game of volleyball using trash bags stuffed with packing material.

People who would rather sit on the sidelines can listen to symphony musicians Junkyard Jonny and Landfill Lil or look at Jasik's art, including a car made out of the back ends of two vehicles. Believe it or not, DeKoven said, it moves.

"There are going to be some very bizarre, funky-looking cars ... that were transformed into art," he said.

Also planned is a junk swap for people looking to clean up their homes or add to their collections.

Bring a shopping bag full of unwanted items, and they may just be attractive to someone else.

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